

THERE IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of link adaptation in a mobile radiocommunication system, said method including selecting a coding and/or modulation scheme as a function of radio conditions represented by an average of radio measurement results, and said method being such that said average includes:
 - an average over a relatively short period for rapidly selecting a more rugged coding and/or modulation scheme if radio conditions are degraded rapidly, or
 - an average over a relatively longer period for selecting a less rugged coding and/or modulation scheme or a more rugged coding and/or modulation scheme if radio conditions are not rapidly degraded.
2. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said selection is based on a system of thresholds which have a first value for determining if radio conditions are degraded rapidly and a second value for determining if radio conditions are not degraded rapidly, said second value being relatively higher or relatively lower than said first value according to whether the value of said radio measurements increases or decreases when radio conditions are degraded.
3. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said radio measurements include raw BER measurements.
4. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said radio measurements include SIR measurements.
5. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein, if one of said coding schemes has a coding rate equal to 1, said radio measurements for selecting a more rugged coding scheme from said coding scheme having a coding rate equal to 1 include measurements other than raw BER measurements and said radio measurements for selecting said coding scheme having a code rate equal to 1 from a more rugged coding scheme include raw BER measurements and measurements other than raw BER measurements.
6. The method claimed in claim 5 wherein said radio measurements other than raw BER measurements include SIR measurements.
7. The method claimed in claim 5 wherein said radio measurements other than raw BER measurements include received signal power level measurements.
8. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein, when transmission resumes on said link to which said link adaptation is applied following an interruption of transmission, and if said measurements have not been effected during said interruption of transmission, said coding and/or modulation scheme that was

being used before said interruption of transmission is used if said period of interruption is relatively short or a default coding and/or modulation scheme is used otherwise.

9. The method claimed in claim 8 wherein said default coding and/or modulation scheme is the most rugged coding and/or modulation scheme.
10. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said average is obtained by means of an exponential filter defined by a forget factor parameter that is expressed directly as a function of the time period between two measurements or an approximation thereof.
11. The method claimed in claim 10 wherein said filter is defined by equations of the following type:

$$\bullet \quad y_{n+1} = \alpha^{\Delta t_n} y_n + 1$$

$$\bullet \quad AV_M_{n+1} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{y_{n+1}}\right) AV_M_n + \frac{1}{y_{n+1}} m_{n+1}$$

in which:

- AV_M_{n+1} is the value of AV_M after an $(n+1)^{th}$ measurement m_{n+1} ,
- Δt_n designates the time interval between the n^{th} measurement and the $(n+1)^{th}$ measurement, or an approximation of that time interval, and
- α is a parameter defining the filter.

12. A mobile radiocommunication system including means for implementing a link adaptation method as claimed in claim 1.
13. The system claimed in claim 12 wherein said link adaptation is applied to an uplink.
14. The system claimed in claim 12 wherein said link adaptation is applied to a downlink.
15. A mobile radiocommunication network entity including means for implementing a link adaptation method as claimed in claim 1.
16. The entity claimed in claim 15 wherein said link adaptation is applied to an uplink.
17. The entity claimed in claim 15 wherein said link adaptation is applied to a downlink.
18. A mobile station including means for implementing a link adaptation method as claimed in claim 1.
19. The mobile station claimed in claim 18 wherein said link adaptation method is applied to a downlink.

20. The mobile station claimed in claim 18 wherein said link adaptation method is applied to an uplink.